

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

June 24, 2014

**Adding Access Services to the County of Los Angeles Medical Administrative Activities Program**

Access Services facilitates the provision of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) civil rights paratransit for people with disabilities throughout Los Angeles County. Access Services, which is the second largest ADA provider in the United States, is predominantly funded through the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Agency (Metro). Ridership on Access Services continues to increase, and as a result, more funding has been required annually from Metro to ensure acceptable levels of service.

Innovative funding sources must be explored to ensure the sustainability of operating a robust transit system for people with disabilities throughout Los Angeles County. Many transit entities within California, including transit systems in San Diego and Ventura counties, have begun participating in the Medical Administrative Activities (MAA) Program. Through the MAA Program, whereby the County of Los Angeles serves as the “Local Government Authority” or administrative entity, transit entities

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MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

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**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS**

**June 24, 2014**

**PAGE 2**

receive a percentage of funding back from the federal government for transporting Medi-Cal eligible individuals to Medi-Cal related appointments. The Department of Public Health plans to assume the responsibilities for administering the MAA Program beginning July 1, 2014. Access Services is currently providing this service as part of its program, but is not receiving any reimbursement for the service because it is not part of an MAA Program.

By accepting Access Services into the County of Los Angeles MAA Program, there would be a large financial benefit to Access Services and the region. Conservatively, presuming that a quarter of Access Services trips are eligible for reimbursement under the MAA Program, participation could potentially generate over \$8,000,000 of annual revenue for Access Services and \$800,000 in funding for the County of Los Angeles to administer the MAA Program. This additional funding source would potentially allow Metro to reduce operating subsidies to Access Services.

**I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

Direct the Director of the Department of Public Health, acting as the administrator for the Medical Administrative Activities Program, in coordination with the Auditor-Controller to:

- Investigate the feasibility of the addition of Access Services into the Medical Administrative Activities Program;

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS**

**June 24, 2014**

**PAGE 3**

- Develop a resource plan including staffing and oversight cost to address any additional workload and include such request in the department's Supplemental Budget Resolution; and
- Report back to the Board of Supervisors with a status report within 90 days on the action steps and resources required to include Access Services in the County's MAA claiming plan.

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